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FRANK A. MUNSEY

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THURSDAY EVENING, FEB. 10, 1910.

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Circulation of The Times
and The Star for January:

The Times.....44,411
The Star.....38,258

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TAKES IMPORTANT STEP.

Washington is waking up. It might, perhaps, be more proper to say Washington has waked up and is growing more awake every day. For years and decades after its foundation Washington was a city content to rest upon its laurels as the National Capital, to be the plaything of Congress, and the regret of loyal citizens visiting here. In every way except civic spirit and pride Washington has long since waked up.

In the resolution, which was passed by the Chamber of Commerce last Tuesday night, appointing a committee to devise methods for taking the public pulse on matters of municipal interest, can be seen another step in the direction of civic awakening.

No matter what the government of the city may be, whether by commission, by governor, or by Congressional committee; no matter whether Washington has suffrage or not, there is no reason why an interest in civic affairs by every resident citizen should not accomplish everything in the way of civic advancement and improvement.

The plan of the Chamber of Commerce is merely a means of finding out public sentiment on public questions, in order to take such steps as may seem most feasible for accomplishing the crystallization of the public desire.

Whatever the government of the city, no citizen need worry that White House, Congress, or Commission will ever ignore such crystallized sentiment when it is put before them.

MORE GRIEF FOR THE ULTIMATE CONSUMER.

The ultimate consumer is having so much trouble these days that it seems impossible to add anything to the griefs he already feels. But it does look as if Secretary Nagel, of the Department of Commerce and Labor, had succeeded in supplying certain information bound to give the aforesaid ultimate consumer an extra twinge or two of pain.

Most of the discussion of high prices so far has related to the cost of food products. Seemingly, it has been taken for granted that these are more vital to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness than things to wear. Of course, the supply of meats and groceries has to be renewed daily, whereas one can struggle along indefinitely wearing old clothes. Still, there comes a time when the worn-out raiment must be renewed. It is then, so Secretary Nagel's figures show, that the consumer is certain to be jolted.

It appears from the Department of Commerce and Labor figures which have been submitted to the Senate in response to a resolution that the cost of things to wear has increased in more marked degree, in some instances, than the cost of foodstuffs. The figures show the relative wholesale prices of cotton goods, cotton yarns, hosiery, wool, overcoatings, suitings, leather, dress goods, boots and shoes, and scores of other materials for wear, and their manufactured products, in 1889 and 1900. Some of the price increases amount to over 50 per cent, while in most cases the increase is at least 25 per cent. Raw cotton is shown to have increased 59 per cent, cotton flannels 33 per cent, drillings 57 per cent, bleached sheetings 55 per cent, bleached shirtings from 25 to 41 per cent, overcoatings 47 per cent, and so on.

Secretary Nagel makes the interesting observation that the advance in the prices of things to wear has worked as much hardship on the people as the advance in the prices of things to eat.

ANOTHER USE FOR AN OLD FASHIONED REMEDY.

A new use has been discovered for that good old medicine of our fathers and mothers, and their fathers and mothers before them, quinine. At least, that is the announcement that comes out of the fever-infected jungles of Arkansas, by way of Kansas City. It is said that Dr. Henry Thibault, of Scott, Ark., has discovered that common quinine has surprising virtues as an anesthetic; in fact, that it has merits as an anesthetic which are superior to any other agent in medical knowledge. The faculty of the University of Kansas Medical College indorses the discovery of the Arkansas doctor.

The effect of quinine when injected locally is said to last for days, so that

if tonsils are involved or bones are cut from the nose there is no great pain for many days. Great quantities of it may be used without poisonous effect. While cocaine has a poisonous effect save in small doses, quinine does not, and it has the advantage of hardening the tissues into which it is introduced, preventing hemorrhages after operation, according to the assertions of Dr. Thibault.

It goes without saying that if quinine has the properties which it is alleged to have it will mean much for medical and surgical science. It is surprising that it should have been in common use for so long without being found valuable as an anesthetic. However, it is eminently fitting that the discovery should be made in Arkansas. The inhabitants of that agree-shaken State have been using quinine for generations to drive away the chills and fever, and ought to understand what the drug can do if anybody does.

OBSERVANCE OF LENT IS MORE GENERAL.

Observance of Lent, which began yesterday, is much more general than it was a few years ago, when it marked only the penitential season of the Catholic church, preceding the impressive festival of Easter and the risen Christ. But for religious as well as for other reasons Lent has become a season regarded as one, if not for meditation, self-sacrifice, and attention to religious duties, at least as one which calls for more or less restraint. In the social world, if the round of gayeties does not cease, the pace notably slackens, the devotees of fashion taking advantage of the time to rest from dissipation.

More and more it has become the rule even for the undevout, though they may not put on sackcloth and ashes, to give some heed to this period which the church sets aside for prayer and fasting. As furnishing an occasion for abstinence in both eating and drinking, for the formation of good resolutions and the cultivation of good habits, Lent has come to have a wider significance among the non-church-going public than is generally supposed.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS MUST KEEP AWAY FROM DRINK.

That long-suffering personage, the public official, has now been kicked from another direction. The Iowa supreme court has handed down a decision upholding what is known as the Carson removal law, which provides that public officials may be removed for intoxication. The court's decision makes it exceedingly dangerous for a public official to drink, even to drop into some convenient place with a friend and take a small nip. The court holds that the matter of drinking goes to a man's qualification for office, and that even though this habit is an issue in the election and the people decide for him, he can still be ousted for this very fault.

Folks who are alarmed at the spread of the prohibition wave would do well to take cognizance of this new and strange doctrine that threatens to make all public officials refrain from "likker."

Is it going to get so that a member of Congress can partake of punch only at the risk of losing his office; so that an alderman cannot go the rounds of his ward and take a few drinks just to jolly up "the boys"; so that even the policeman on a hard beat in cold weather cannot step round into the alley and receive consolation at the hands of some good, kind barkeep? Certain it is that if the public official is going to be forced to go about in a parched condition, he will have small sympathy for that part of the public that insists on taking a dram occasionally.

THE GOOD SIDE OF THE WARD POLITICIAN.

A ward politician of Kansas City, Mo., released a few days ago title to a fortune of \$50,000 to which he had rightful claim in order that it might go to the children of a friend who was killed in an accident. The Kansas City Journal, speaking of the sacrifice as an unusually noble thing, says:

"Mike" Ross is more than a ward politician. One does not have to indorse his politics to commend the nobility of his friendship—a nobility which makes him an inspiring exemplar to a great many people who would not so willingly surrender all claim to \$50,000 when the law substantiated that claim in spirit and in letter.

Reference to a man as a "ward politician" does not signify always by any means that he is not a man with a good heart, or that he is not as capable of doing a good action as is anybody else. Many so-called ward politicians are self-sacrificing in aid of their friends, kind to their families, ready to stand by their word to the last, living what they think is a decent life. Many of them are attractive personalities, full-blooded fellows, with good hearts. One may feel it a public duty to denounce the business of the ward politician and his code of ethics, while acknowledging that he has good personal qualities.

Some of them think it all right to get contracts at a stiffer price than they should be let, if they can do it. Others take money for their political influence. Still others will sell their votes without believing they are doing anything particularly heinous. They can't get the point of view that betraying the public is as bad as betraying a friend. Few of them have the right idea of the obligation of a public official. They feel that one's vote is

his own, to do as he pleases with, and to dispose of it as he sees fit. They help their friends without asking anything in return. That is where their influence grows and why they become a power in politics. And that also is one reason why it is so necessary to interpose against them.

The ward politician who can surrender a fortune of \$50,000 that the children of a friend may have all they need shows the possession of some of the qualities which help to make the politician a dangerous foe of good government. It is because he has so many qualities which tie friends to him that he is so difficult to get rid of.

General Seth, in whose honor the Maryland Legislature adjourned because of the report that he was dead, has at least the consoling knowledge that, when he does die, he will get fine treatment in the adjournment line.

In reading all these rumors of Government officials resigning, it is well to remember that a man who gets into the Government service usually has to be shot out. It costs money to live these days.

That Maryland legislator who has a bill to limit the diameter of women's hats to ten inches might produce something to keep some of our leading lawmakers from having swelled heads.

Mrs. Florence Wilson, in saying she was born with a craving for strong drink, shows that she got for nothing what many people accumulate at a high cost.

If the investigation of the cost of living shows up all the people who don't pay their grocery bills a nation-wide scandal may be caused.

If the prosecutors have their way, some of the Beef trust officials will have a chance to beef about the poor fare in the jails.

When Peary gets his title of rear admiral, he will always be reminded of Cook. Cook was always in his rear.

Out in Iowa a mayor of a town has been ousted for drinking whiskey. Who says the prohibition wave is receding?

Not everybody will agree with Dr. Cowles that the best way to resent an insult is to have a court-martial.

Commander Peary, having found the North Pole, might win additional laurels by discovering Dr. Cook.

They have muzzled the press in India, where about 96 per cent of the population can't read.

More and more it becomes apparent that fast living never carries a man to any desirable goal.

Some foolish persons make a habit of grabbing women's handbags which have nothing in them.

You can always trust Mr. Fairbanks to find frost on the ground when he blows in.

Think of the promises Jeffries will have broken if Jack Johnson whips him.

Governor Vardaman is busy with the greatest race question of his career.

There is a chance that Mr. Roosevelt may not care to see Rome.

Mr. Hitchcock is the hitching post of all the office seekers.

Maybe it costs so much to live because people eat so much.

Mr. McCabe denies Pinchot's charges. Oh, you copy cat!

It's a clinch that Dr. Cook is not at the North Pole.

"What is whiskey?" Most of it is mighty poor.

How can a man pay out money when it's Lent?

Dr. Hyde did not hide the strychnine.

This is Satan's dull forty days.

DOOR MAIL BOXES ARE RECOMMENDED

One of the suggestions of the Postmaster General for economizing in his department is that the people put up little boxes, or other receptacles at their front doors, so that the postman need not have to stand and wait until somebody answers the bell. A great deal of time is wasted by the postman having to wait. It is in the interest of efficiency and economic service to provide these little conveniences. And then they are not only conveniences for the postman; they are also for the people of the house.

"There is the mail man," says the housekeeper, "he's with the dough for the family bread—run, Johnny, to the door," and Johnny is down in the back yard trying to lasso a black cat, but by this time the mail man, thinking But he got out with the expected letter from Mary, who is visiting over in Chicago, and so the family is all right. The sturdy Homopaths cry: "The appendix must come out. To knife, to knife, my comrades, We'll have a surgeon's bout."

"Operation was successful. Patient died at ten o'clock."

Long live the greatest doctors. Whose conceit progress would block. Freedom from them is wholesome. But for others, alas, it is a curse. They are "it," deluded mortals, Curing people is their "biz."

"Nux Vomica and Aconite."

On banners blazoned wide "Simulacrum Curantur."

The sturdy Homopaths cried: With sugar and with honey Their taste he oft beguiled, In malice and in wrath.

The poor pill-ridden child.

"Away," cried Dr. Calomel, "Your methods are not right."

"Avaunt," the Homopaths replied, "We've got you good and tight."

Their stomachs you have ruined Their hearts—Well, they're all in—It's well, I've come, such treatment Is certainly a sin."

So year by year they wrangled, They fumed and raved and cursed, Till the patience of their patients Who still lived, they quite dispersed. But still they kept on fighting, Always with great wrath.

Until, one morn, they rubbed their eyes And found an Osteopath.

A mere "masseur" they called him, A thing not worth their while; The fact that he was curing Only brought a scornful smile; When one day, on a looking Their list of victims o'er, They found such diminution As had never occurred before.

In haste a consultation Twixt "Old School" and the "New."

"If you'll help me to down 'em, I'll do the same for you."

So hand in hand together Like old friends, instead of foes They called upon the Mighty And recounted all their woes.

There's hope for Female Suffrage; The Peace-Fact soon will be; The time is near when all the Trusts Will divide with you and me. But not all this so wonderful Nor to us so great a blow, As this funny combination Of the Allo-Homoeo.

(The Times will be pleased to announce entertainments and meetings in this column. Phone or write announcements.)

Chemical Society of Washington, Pub. Lib., 8 p. m.

Debate on woman suffrage by pupils of Central High School, 1223 H street northwest.

Dance by crew of the Dolphin, at the Navy Yard.

National Style Show, the Arlington, 2 p. m. to 10 p. m.

Theaters

National—Elsie Janis in "The Fair Co-Ed," 8:15 p. m.

Belasco—Nazimova in "The Passion Flower," 8:20 p. m.

Columbia—Henrietta Crosman in "Sham," 8:15 p. m.

Chase-Polite vaudeville, 8:15 p. m.

Academy—"Lena Rivers," 8:15 p. m.

Casino—Continous vaudeville, 11 a. m. to 11 p. m.

Majestic—Moving pictures and vaudeville, 7 to 11 p. m.

Lycium—"Big Review," 8:15 p. m.

Gaiety—"Serenaders," 8:15 p. m.

Masonic Auditorium—Moving pictures, 7:30 to 10:30 p. m.

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Capita Tales

It was not the fault of either Senator Bailey of Texas or Senator Davis of Arkansas that the Congressional Record did not sizzle with their replies to the recent "bloody shirt" speech of Senator Heyburn, of Idaho.

Both Southern Senators were "just itching" to come back following Senator Heyburn's denunciation of the South, the "Lost Cause," and the practice of leading Confederate soldiers to the place of Confederate reunions, to say nothing of incidental objections to the placing of Lee's statue in the Hall of Fame. Senator Bailey and Senator Davis, began to get wrought up as soon as Senator Bailey paced the floor, and Senator Davis was well under way. Senator Bailey paced the floor, and Senator Davis was well under way.

Cooler heads began to get in their work, however, about this time. It was resolved that the rebuke to Senator Heyburn should be a silent one. Accordingly, Senator Rayner of Maryland, circulated over on the Republican side, a resolution that the majority members were in sympathy with the plan. Senator Money of Mississippi, those who wanted to talk into line on the Democratic side of the chamber. Senators Bailey and Davis swallowed their tongues and remained silent. It is conceded that there would have been a mighty display of oratorical fireworks had they been permitted to open up on the Heyburn tirade.

DEPEW TO READ ADDRESS.

The appointment of Senator Dewey of New York to read Washington's Farewell Address to the Senate, on the 22d of this month, recalls some of the experiences this body has had with similar appointments on similar occasions in the past.

Not many years ago Senator Perkins was named to deliver the immortal address. That the time of the Senate might not be unnecessarily consumed by the proceeding, it was agreed that the body should convene at 11 o'clock, instead of the usual hour of noon. It met. Senator Perkins, though, had forgotten all about the change. He secreted himself in some secluded corner to rehearse the message. All the while the august body Senators were growing more and more impatient. Eleven-fifteen came, then eleven-thirty, then eleven-fifty, and no Perkins. Every attaché of the Capitol was looking for him, when, just at the noon hour, he strolled unconcernedly in and announced his presence.

Once when Senator Hoar was president of the Senate pro tem, he offered a resolution providing that the president-elect, occupying the chair on Washington's Birthday anniversary should deliver the address. He expected that he would be in the chair, and groomed and primed himself for the effort. Quite inadvertently, however, the late Justice Brandeis occupied the chair at the given moment, and instead of yielding to his colleague he himself proposed that the address, which he had taken the trouble to commit to memory. The effort is said to have been the most appealing and dramatic of his kind ever made in the Senate. The Senate is expecting much eloquence of Senator Dewey, but the friends of the body of statesmen say that he will more than measure up to the occasion.

In the Mail Bag

The Times will accept for publication in its Mail Bag columns, short, vigorous letters on questions of public interest. It cannot undertake to publish letters exceeding 250 words, and reserves the right rigidly to condense communications which are of greater length. Letters must contain the name and address of the writer, but these will not be published if request to that effect is made.

PEACE IN MEDICINE.

To the Editor of The Washington Times: Dear Sir: Being a man who need have no fear of offending anyone by a little humor, I send the following lines apropos of the present controversy in medical circles.

It is to Laugh.
Glory be, Glory be!
The Millennium has "come."
The Allopaths and Homopaths
Are one in all but names:
And what for is the reason?
Do you s'pose that it is so?
Why the stocks, and the money's
On some other body's toe.

For many a year these fellows
Fought each other tooth and nail;
Not because one had the cure-alls,
Nor that one to kill did fall.
But the great big reason in this world
Is a good fat bank account,
So each tried to down the other
That one might get the full amount.

So with calomel and physic
One tried to kill the other;
And the patient meekly took them
Till his stomach took shirked.
Then the Allopath, in his wisdom,
Cried: "The appendix must come out.
To knife, to knife, my comrades,
We'll have a surgeon's bout."

"Operation was successful.
Patient died at ten o'clock."
Long live the greatest doctors,
Whose conceit progress would block.
Freedom from them is wholesome
But for others, alas, it is a curse.
They are "it," deluded mortals,
Curing people is their "biz."

"Nux Vomica and Aconite."
On banners blazoned wide
"Simulacrum Curantur."
The sturdy Homopaths cried:
With sugar and with honey
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In malice and in wrath.

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"Your methods are not right."

"Avaunt," the Homopaths replied,

"We've got you good and tight."

Their stomachs you have ruined

Their hearts—Well, they're all in—

It's well, I've come, such treatment

Is certainly a sin."

So year by year they wrangled,

They fumed and raved and cursed,

Till the patience of their patients

Who still lived, they quite dispersed.

But still they kept on fighting,

Always with great wrath.

Until, one morn, they rubbed their eyes

And found an Osteopath.

A mere "masseur" they called him,

A thing not worth their while;

The fact that he was curing

Only brought a scornful smile;

When one day, on a looking

Their list of victims o'er,

They found such diminution

As had never occurred before.

In haste a consultation

Twixt "Old School" and the "New."

"If you'll help me to down 'em,

I'll do the same for you."

So hand in hand together

Like old friends, instead of foes

They called upon the Mighty

And recounted all their woes.

There's hope for Female Suffrage;

The Peace-Fact soon will be;

The time is near when all the Trusts

Will divide with you and me.

But not all this so wonderful

Nor to us so great a blow,

As this funny combination

Of the Allo-Homoeo.

President Taft Dines Informally At Home of Miss Mabel Boardman

Chief Executive Entertained
at P Street Residence
of Hostess.

Rear Admiral and Mrs.
Cowles Included in
Company.

The President, dined informally last evening with Miss Mabel Boardman, who has as her house guests for the week, Rear Admiral and Mrs. William Sheffield Cowles, U. S. N.

Col. and Mrs. Charles L. McCawley have as their house guest Mrs. Henry Clews, of New York.

Representative and Mrs. J. Van Vechten Olcott have as their house guests Miss Endicott and Miss Richards of Boston, and their niece, Miss Eleanor Hoffman Rodewald, of New York.

Mrs. Herbert Ward is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nelson Page for several weeks.

The Italian Ambassador and Baroness Mayor des Planches entertained a small party informally at dinner last evening at the embassy.

The British Ambassador and Mrs. Bryce are leaving Washington today for Tampa, Fla., where they will make a short visit.

The German Ambassador and Countess von Bernstorff, accompanied by their daughter, Countess Luise-Alexandra von Bernstorff, have gone to New York for several weeks. Countess Luise-Alexandra von Bernstorff will visit in Canada before returning to Washington.

Miss Gorgas, daughter of Col. and Mrs. William C. Gorgas, of Panama, who has been the guest for a month of Miss Margaret Knight, daughter of Major and Mrs. John T. Knight, will leave Washington in a day or two for New York. Miss Gorgas will visit at Panama. Miss Knight will spend a month in Panama with Miss Gorgas.

Mrs. Eldridge Jordan has gone to Atlantic City for a few days.

The Norwegian Minister and Mme. Gude were hosts at dinner last evening. Their guests were Senator Nelson, Representative Stearnson, Representative Gronna, and Representative Haugen, all of Norway born. Prof. Steineger, of the Smithsonian Institution; Norwegian Consul Bendek, Mr. Sartz, of the Agricultural Experiment Station, Mr. Waag, Mr. Hansen, Mr. Gahr, Mr. Solberg, and Mr. Dierstedt, the last four of the Library of Congress.

Miss Ernestine Rich and her house guest, Miss Margaret Heyn, of Toledo, Ohio, are the guests this week of Miss Rose Frank, of Baltimore.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sigmund, of the Ashley, who have spent the past ten days at Atlantic City, returned home Tuesday.

Miss Mae Power, who spent several weeks on the receiving ship Hancock, the bridge prize, by Mrs. A. J. Strassburger and Miss Rose Wheatfield, of Baltimore.

Mrs. Samuel Herbert Moore, 1259 Irving street, will be at home informally tomorrow afternoon, from 4 to 6 o'clock.

Patronesses Are Named For Series of Lectures